

**Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Technology Center 3742**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/656,812 Confirmation No. : 7094
First Named Inventor : Wolfgang DANZER
Filed : September 8, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1725
Examiner : Maria A. Elve

Docket No. : 038724.52699US
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Laser Welding of Nonferrous Metals by Using Laser
Diodes and Process Gas

**AFTER-FINAL AMENDMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following requested amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action mailed December 26, 2008. The response due date, extended one month and to the first business day following a weekend, is April 27, 2009.

Requested Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.